

# The American Philatelist



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## A QUARTERLY JOURNAL

PUBLISHED BY THE

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY



# The American Philatelist

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## EDITORIAL

**OUR ANNUAL CONVENTION** The call for the 26th Annual Convention is out and all eyes are turned toward Springfield, Mass. Ten years ago this beautiful city entertained the Society, and the memories of that Convention linger with the attendants still. In activity and hospitality there is perhaps no philatelic society in the country that can surpass the Springfield Stamp Club, of whom every philatelist knows, and there is no doubt of the cordial welcome and good time that await those who are fortunate enough to be there next August. On another page we present the tentative program just issued by the press committee of the Club.

**A NEW U. S. DISCOVERY** It has just been announced that the 4 cent stamp of the 1895 issue, United States, has been found on the paper watermarked U S I R for the revenue stamps. This is a most interesting discovery, which opens up the question as to how many values of that issue were printed—evidently by mistake—upon the paper intended for the ordinary revenue stamps. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing began manufacturing our postage stamps in 1894. In 1895, in consequence of a lot of counterfeit 2 cent stamps that were discovered, a

watermark of the double-lined letters U S P S (United States Postal Service) was introduced, and about the same time paper similarly watermarked U S I R (United States Internal Revenue) was employed for the Playing Card revenue stamps then being printed by the Bureau. The same paper was naturally used for printing the Spanish War revenues issued in 1898.

Quite evidently the use of the two similar papers in the same establishment resulted in the mix-up by which we get the postage stamps on the revenue paper. The first value found was the 8 cent which came to light in 1899, we believe. No other value was found until 1910, when the 6 cent of the same issue turned up. And now we have the 4 cent. What will be the next value? Surely the chances are good for some others of the series!

Fortunately one of the copies of the 8 cent, at least, shows part of the dated postmark, March 1897, from which the approximate time of the issue is known. It shows at once that it preceded the Spanish War revenues, and therefore must have been a mix-up between the revenue paper for the Playing Card stamps and the postage paper. Now comes the query, does the 2 cent ultramarine Playing Card stamp occur on the postage paper? This would be perhaps

a little more difficult to determine, for there is but half the chance of finding them in any given quantity. From the watermarks U S P S and U S I R it is readily seen that **two** letters of the revenue paper serve to distinguish any one stamp, while but **one** letter of the postage paper could be so used, the other letters occurring in both papers. The situation is an interesting one with possibilities.

**A NEW  
BRITISH  
WATERMARK**

The subject of watermarks calls to mind the new British stamps, for which we are still waiting, over two years after the accession of His Majesty King George V. The time honored large crown to each stamp is to give way to the royal cipher with a small crown above it, employed as a multiple or "all-over" watermark. The script letters G R entwined and enclosing a small v are surmounted by a small crown like that of the original penny black. The new paper is ready and has been used for the new National Health and Unemployment Insurance stamps about to be issued by the British Government, as the special paper for those issues is not yet manufactured. Thus we have the Insurance stamps printed provisionally on postage stamp paper, but we presume British specialists will not go so far as to collect them because of that fact.

Our only query is, why use a royal cipher for a watermark? It simply means another change in the case of the demise of the sovereign, with probably a resulting mixture of perhaps new stamps on "old" paper and possibly old stamps on "new" paper. The up-to-date multiple watermark, however, was to be expected, as its use is more satisfactory than that of special designs or arrangements made "to fit."

**M. LE DOCTEUR  
LEGRAND** Word has just reached us from France, as we go to press, of the death of Philately's "Grand Old Man," the Dean of Stamp Collectors—Dr. Jac-

ques Amable Legrand — who passed peacefully away at his home in Neuilly-sur-Seine on June 6th at the advanced age of 92 years.

Though not so well known to the mass of English speaking collectors of the present day, perhaps, yet to all real philatelists the name of Dr. Legrand, or his nom-de-plume of "Dr. Magnus," is familiar. It is said that his interest in stamps dated from 1862, when his young son formed the usual schoolboy collection, with some encouragement and assistance from his father. The former "recovered," as often happens, while the later became "infected" as he saw the opportunities for relaxation and pleasure in the collecting and study of the fascinating bits of paper.

At that time collecting was in its swaddling clothes, for catalogs were only just beginning to appear, and no scientific methods had been devised for listing the stamps or arranging them in collections. But Dr. Legrand's professional training undoubtedly impelled him to take up his new hobby in a serious and practical way which caused him to achieve results that by 1865 made him a leader in the so-called "French School" of collectors. One of his earliest essays was upon "Watermarks and Papers Employed in the Manufacture of Postage Stamps," which was a plea for the interest and importance of the study of these points in connection with stamps.

In 1866 he published another epoch making essay in Moens' *Timbre-Poste*, dealing with the question of perforations. Of course at that time the distinction was recognized between the imperforate state and the perforated or rouletted. But he placed the latter on a scientific basis by inventing the "Odonometer" or "tooth-measurer," which was the prototype of the present "Perforation Gauge," and thus settled in the early days of Philately the method of properly taking care of the troublesome variations in this method of separation.

He wrote much thereafter for **Le**

Timbre-Poste (Brussels) and also for *Le Timbrophile* (Paris), but in 1872-4 he published the *Gazette des Timbres*, a paper of his own. From 1874 to 1878 he edited *Le Timbre-Fiscal* (Brussels). In 1878 Moens published his "Inscriptions on the Stamps of Japan," in 1893 appeared "Oriental Alphabets and Figures," and in 1894 the "Manual of the Stamp Lover." A "Catalogue of Philatelic Literature" was published in *La Circulaire Philatelique* in 1907-9, but was never completed.

Naturally Dr. Legrand, as one of the pioneers, had exceptional opportunities for acquiring the great rarities (of the present day) when they were to be had reasonably. The bulk of his collection was sold in 1897, for about \$60,000, an unused 2d. Post Office Mauritius and the companion 1d. used bringing \$9,600. He had also an enormous collection of fiscal stamps, which was later disposed of.

There have been many of the great figures of the early days that have recently been removed from our ranks: Dr. Viner and Judge Philbrick in England, MM. Maury and Berger-Levrault in France, M. Moens in Belgium, and quite recently Dr. Moschkau in Germany; but none, perhaps, has done more practically and scientifically to set Philately on its feet than the revered Dr. Legrand, whose loss all true philatelists will mourn.

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**DOKTOR MOSCHKAU** Just previous to the death of Dr. Legrand there passed away one of Germany's famous philatelists, of whom we must also speak. Dr. Otto Karl Alfred Mosch-

kau was also one of the pioneers of Philately whom we could ill afford to lose. He began collecting as a boy in 1859, but did not seriously enter the ranks of philatelists until some ten years later, when he began his literary work in which he was best known. He began as collaborator on the "Bazar für Briefmarkensammler," but in 1870 became editor of the new "Deutsche Briefmarken-Zeitung." In 1872 he published the "Magazin für Briefmarken-Sammler" and from 1874 to 1881 was editor of *Gebrüder Senf's "Illustrierte Briefmarken-Journal."* From that time until 1891 he wrote for various journals, but from 1891 until his death he was engaged in writing the monthly reports for "Der Philatelist."

In spite of so much work for periodical literature he found time for several monographs of his own. In 1871 he published "Watermarks on Stamps" combined with a history of Philately, which ran to four editions. In 1874 followed his great catalog, or "Moschkau Hand-book," which also ran to four editions. In 1876 came a "Handbook for Essay Collectors" and a few other minor works.

Dr Moschkau was especially active in his warfare against counterfeiters, and lost his home and valuable collections at one time through losing a lawsuit against one of these gentry. He became a recognized expert and was honored in many ways by German Philatelists and Societies. His death severs another of the few remaining links with the early history of Philately.

### *On to Springfield*

Some folks may have thought we have been asleep because we have not been booming Springfield every week since the last convention, but that is not so. We have so much we want to show you that we have had to consider carefully what to select for the week of the convention. At last we have our program practically finished, and here it is:

First as to the headquarters. The Hotel Kimball is a new modern up to date half million dollar hotel. The meetings will probably be held in the banquet hall although that is not definitely settled. The rates (European plan) are from \$1.50 up or for room with bath \$2.50 up. No inside rooms. Write direct to the hotel to secure rooms, and as Springfield is a great place in summer for automobile parties it will be well to write in advance to make sure of quarters. There are other good hotels to which the committee would be pleased to direct members upon application.

Monday night everyone is invited to spend a social evening at the residence of William C. Stone and get acquainted with the Springfield boys (and girls) and with each other. Purely informal. No oratory.

Tuesday morning the session will open at 10 o'clock, and in the afternoon a trip to Mt. Tom will be taken.

Wednesday morning another business session with a picnic at Minnechaug Lake in the afternoon. Base ball, etc.

Thursday morning business session. Trip to Forest Park in the afternoon. The evening will be given up to a "Stamp Bourse" at the hotel. A room, or rooms will be provided with tables where members can show, sell, swap and talk stamps to their heart's content. Bring on your stock books and want lists. It will be an open board with no "unlisted" securities.

Friday will be devoted to personally conducted parties, "Seeing Springfield," etc. Should some of the members desire, an opportunity can probably be given to visit one of the Holyoke paper mills.

Do not forget that you are expected to bring your better halves. The Springfield ladies will be disappointed if you do not.

W. C. STONE,

Press Committee,

Springfield Stamp Club.

A HISTORY  
OF THE  
American Philatelic Association  
NOW THE  
American Philatelic Society  
1886 - 1911

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Prepared by WILLIAM CARLOS STONE,  
At the request of the Quarter Century Celebration Committee.

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(Continued from Page 150)

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FRANK F. OLNEY, President.

1896—1899

With the retirement from the presidency and from active participation in society matters of John K. Tiffany there came a reflex action in the growth of the organization. Frank F. Olney, the new President, was a man who was but little known outside his own immediate neighborhood, and although of sterling character was not in touch with the mass of collectors like his predecessor. Mr. Olney held office for three years, but on account of being able to attend only one convention did not become well acquainted with the members at large. He was for many years mayor of the city of Providence, Rhode Island, and was a man held in high esteem by his fellow citizens.

During this administration conventions were held in Boston in 1897, New York in 1898 and Detroit in 1900. The Boston meeting was a record breaker for attendance, 84 stockholders being present in person while 417 were represented by proxy. In accordance with the instructions of the last convention steps were taken during the year to re-incorporate the Association in order to do away with cumulative voting, which had proved a detriment to the organization. On April 3, 1897, the first steps were taken under the laws of Minnesota, and on June 30 the articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State under the name of the "American Philatelic Society." When this action was reported to the Convention it was rejected and incorporation was ordered under the name "American Philatelic Association," which action was taken on the last day of 1897.

The annual dues were reduced from \$1.80 to \$1.20 per year, and amendments to the By-Laws were adopted providing for the closing of the polls at noon of the day

preceding the opening of the convention, instead of on the opening day itself. Also for an appropriation of \$100 to the so-called "Defence Fund" being raised for opposing the Post Office Department in their suit regarding the right of collectors to possess newspaper and periodical stamps. (It may be said here that the government lost the suit and the right of collectors to own such stamps was fully confirmed.)

The Convention of 1898 was held in New York City just at the close of our war with Spain and while the fleet was at anchor at Staten Island. There was an attendance of 63 stockholders and 208 were represented by proxy. Vice-President Toppan presided and William N. Howe acted as Secretary, to which position he had been elected to succeed J. F. Beard, who died May 6, 1898. It was voted to forfeit the West Virginia charter which had been kept alive for protective purposes.

During the year the library of the Association was permanently deposited in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, Pa., which had agreed to care for it and to see to its being properly catalogued. It was also voted to authorize the appointment annually of committees to report on the literature of the year, new philatelic appliances and to prepare obituaries of departed members. An attempt was made at the Convention to make the *Metropolitan Philatelist* the official journal, but it failed on account of there not being sufficient members represented to legally make the necessary change in the By-Laws.

The Fourteenth Annual Convention was held in the Art Museum in Detroit, commencing September 12, 1899. A new Board of Directors was elected headed by George L. Toppan, of Racine, Wisconsin, as President and H. E. Deats, of Flemington, New Jersey, as Secretary. There was an attendance of 27 members with a proxy representation of 226. It was voted to appoint the Credentials Committee prior to the convention in order to facilitate the work of counting the ballots, etc. It was also voted that the President be authorized to designate members to prepare papers on subjects of philatelic interest to be read at the conventions.

During the year the Association suffered a severe loss in the death of C. P. Krauth, the International Secretary, who, had he been spared, would undoubtedly have been selected as the next president of the Association.

The three years of President Olney's administration were disappointing ones. The membership, which was reported at the Convention of 1896 as 1046, fell off heavily, and the total membership at the 1899 meeting was reported to be only 583. This dropping off was due in a large part to dissatisfaction with the management of the affairs of the Association under the former administration, and to the opposition of that portion of the membership which favored cumulative voting.

At the Convention held in New York in 1898 three standing committees were authorized, an Obituary Committee, a Committee on Philatelic Literature, and a Committee on Philatelic Appliances. The latter was dropped some years since but the others are still in existence. The Literature Committee has prepared annual reports containing lists of new philatelic publications, with brief notes as to where they can be obtained and at what price.

#### GEORGE L. TOPPAN, President.

1899—1902

The three years' administration of George L. Toppan showed a small gain in membership, there being a net gain of 59 during his term against a net loss of 463 under the previous administration. A conservative policy was followed and new members were slow in joining. The Milwaukee Convention in August, 1900, was attended by 51 stockholders and 314 were represented by proxies.

Very little legislation of any importance was enacted at the Convention aside from a proviso that applications for re-instatement were to be published under the same conditions as ordinary applications for membership. Heretofore it had been

the custom for the Secretary to simply issue a certificate if the applicant paid up all back dues, etc.

In January, 1901, a committee of three members residing in the city of Chicago was appointed as a Membership Committee to secure recruits for the Association. Attractive literature was prepared setting forth the advantages of the Association and good results followed, although but slowly at first. The Convention in August was held in Buffalo and was attended by 69 members with 271 proxies. The Pan-American Exposition proved too attractive to the members, and as a consequence little but routine business was transacted.

When the Convention met in Springfield in August, 1902, the membership was reported as 555, a slight gain over the previous report. A committee to compile an index to philatelic literature and another committee to be called the Expert Committee were authorized. There was an attendance of 49 with a proxy representation of 248. Very little interest was manifested in the election of officers, only 102 ballots being cast, and Alexander Holland, of New York, was elected President. An excursion to the Summit of Mt. Tom was given the visitors, and the magnificent view of the beautiful Connecticut Valley was enjoyed by all.

#### ALEXANDER HOLLAND, President.

1902—1904

Among the new committees authorized by the Springfield Convention was an Expert Committee to pass upon the genuineness of rarities, and an Index Committee to prepare an index of philatelic literature. The first named committee has been but little patronized by the members, and the latter has only just commenced the publication of the Index after numerous changes in its membership.

J. F. Johnson, of Boston, one of the Vice-Presidents, resigned in February, 1903, on account of removal from Boston caused by ill health. He was succeeded by E. F. Sawyer.

The Association met again at Clayton, N. Y., August 11, 1903, when there was an attendance of 23 members and 14 visitors, and a proxy representation of 376. During the year 73 new members were received, but enough dropped out so that the net gain for the year was only five, leaving the membership 560. The officers elected were the same as the previous year with the exception of W. O. Wylie in place of Vice-President Sawyer, and D. T. Eaton in place of H. E. Deats as Secretary. *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* replaced the *Weekly Philatelic Era* as official journal, and it has remained as such up to the present date. A general revision of the provisions of the By-Laws relating to the duties of officers was made, as it was found that they were somewhat out of date. An appropriation of \$100 was made for the Membership Committee.

Numerous boat trips were taken by the delegates during the week, and a party of twenty enjoyed a post-convention trip by boat to Montreal after adjournment.

The Convention of 1904 was held in Pittsburgh, and the members who planned attending were greatly saddened two weeks before the date, to learn of the death of George W. Rode, who was one of the most active members of the Association and a leading spirit among Pittsburgh collectors.

The Convention was called to order by Vice-President Burt in the absence of the President, who was detained in California by business. There was an attendance of 39 members and 25 visitors with a proxy representation of 330. H. E. Deats, of New Jersey was elected President and J. S. Rich and William E. Loy Directors at Large, the remainder of the Board being unchanged. The membership was reported to be 608, a net gain of 48. The down grade upon which the Association had been traveling for some time seemed to have been passed, and the good effects of the work of the Membership Committee were beginning to be felt. The regulations of

the Sales Department were given a thorough revision, and some other minor legislation was enacted. The social side was well looked after, and trolley rides to all parts of the city and its vast industrial suburbs were enjoyed by all. The far famed "57 varieties" of the Heinz firm were seen in their vast shops, and a banquet took care of the inner man. "Papa" Doebelin entertained the delegates at his home Monday evening. A literary session was held one evening at the Carnegie Institute, and several papers were read which were afterwards printed in the Year Book. Minneapolis carried off the convention for the next year.

#### HIRAM EDMUND DEATS, President.

1904—1905

The one year administration of President Deats continued the upward movement of the Association. When the Convention in Minneapolis was called to order in the City Hall, August 8, 1905, the membership was reported to be 674, a net gain of 65, there having been 134 new members added during the year. There were present 41 stockholders and 28 visitors, with a proxy vote of 335. There having been no new Membership Committee appointed during the past year, the increase was due entirely to the individual efforts of the members. Much important legislation was enacted by the Convention. The Resident Vice-Presidents and Auction Purchasing Agents were abolished, as they had become largely ornamental offices. The Membership Committee was changed to the Recruiting Committee. While the stock of a member who had left the Association had always been considered forfeited, it had never been so stated in the By-Laws, and such a provision was inserted. All applications for membership and for reinstatement were to be published in the official journal for four consecutive weeks and in place of references by two members, two commercial references were substituted, in addition to the proposer, who must be a member. The power of expulsion was transferred from the Vice-Presidents to the Board of Directors. Boston was voted the next convention.

The election was uncontested and resulted in the choice of William C. Stone, of Massachusetts, for President, H. N. Mudge, H. A. Fowler and Alex. Holland, of Illinois, for Vice-Presidents, with the rest of the Board unchanged.

#### WILLIAM CARLOS STONE, President.

1905—1907.

Under this administration the Association made rapid growth. The convention in Boston was called to order in the Hotel Bellevue, August 14, 1906. The total attendance at the sessions was 87 members, 5 applicants and 63 guests. This far exceeded any previous convention.

The report of the Secretary showed a membership of 826, 226 new members having been added, making a net gain of 152. The 1000 mark again looked near. The number of suspensions for non-payment of dues was unusually small, so good was the "follow up" work of the Recruiting Committee under Mr. Rosenthal. The wisdom of the creation of this Committee was at once apparent.

The unsolicited approval sheet nuisance was given considerable attention during the year by the Board of Vice-Presidents, and considerable progress was made in its suppression.

The sum of \$150 was voted for the Recruiting Committee, and a vote was passed authorizing the Directors to have prepared a new die for a button badge similar to the original one, the same to be sold at cost to the members, the cost of the die being distributed among the first five hundred sold. Through oversight this vote was never acted upon by the Directors and is still in force.

A reception was given the visitors the evening before the Convention, at which there was considerable oratory and a fine display of some of Boston's notable collec-

tions. During the week the delegates and their friends were taken on a harbor trip to Fort Warren, by trolley over the Paul Revere route to Concord and Lexington, and an all day trip to Plymouth. Denver was awarded the convention for 1907. The election resulted in the choice of several new members of the Board, Fred Michael replacing Alex. Holland and A. F. Henkels replacing D. T. Eaton as Secretary, the latter being transferred to the "Foreign Office." William E. Loy died just before the election and H. B. Phillips was declared elected in his place. One pleasing feature was sprung upon the Convention by H. N. Mudge in the form of an Association Song, which the delegates sang upon every possible opportunity during the week.

The spring of 1907 saw the opening of the liveliest political campaign the society had had for years.

For the first time in many years there was an opposition ticket for president placed in the field. Campaign literature abounded, the papers were full of advertisements and appeals, and personalities were rife. It was the East against the West, with tickets headed respectively by John N. Luff and Eugene Doebelin. An enormous vote was polled, and when the convention met in Denver it was found that Mr. Luff had won by a goodly majority. The total ballots cast numbered 917.

The convention was called to order by Vice-President Mudge (President Stone not being able to attend) in the Albany Hotel, July 29, 1907, and an immediate adjournment was taken to the summit of Pike's Peak, where the session was held. It was a most suitable place, for the report of the Secretary showed the highest figure reached in our membership, 1175, there having been 426 new members added during the year. In addition 48 were reinstated during the year. It was voted to limit the number of proxies held by any one member to 50. No specially important legislation was enacted. Columbus, Ohio, was given the next convention. The attendance at Denver was 59 members, 1 applicant and 52 visitors. The proxy representation was 786.

The total number of new members added during President Stone's administration was 652, a net gain of 501.

#### JOHN NICHOLAS LUFF, President.

1907—1909.

With the exception of Treasurer Smith there was an entirely new Board of Directors elected at the Denver Convention. John N. Luff was chosen President with C. A. Howes, E. deZ. Kelley and L. L. Green, of Boston, as Vice-Presidents. H. A. Davis, of Denver, was the choice for Secretary, L. H. Kjellstedt, of Pennsylvania, for International Secretary, and H. J. Crocker and F. R. Cornwall at large.

The Columbus Convention drew a large attendance, 88 members, 2 applicants and 32 visitors being registered. Governor Harris, of Ohio, gave an address of welcome. The statistical report showed that the upward trend of the membership was still prevalent, 448 new members having been admitted during the year, the membership being 1514, a net gain of 339. There was no contest in the election, all the Directors being re-elected with the exception of the Secretary, who declined. H. S. Adair, of Columbus, was chosen in his place. The most important action taken by the Convention was the changing of the name of the organization from "American Philatelic Association" to "American Philatelic Society." It was voted to take over the work of the National Stamp Committee, and an appropriation of \$50 was made towards the work. The sum of \$150 was appropriated for the Recruiting Committee. It was also voted to undertake the publishing of popular handbooks on philatelic subjects. Atlantic City, New Jersey, was selected as the place of the next meeting. President Luff was detained at home through illness and H. N. Mudge was chosen to preside in the absence of the Board of Vice-Presidents. The local committee pub-

lished a daily Convention Bulletin, of which four numbers were issued.

Prior to the Annual Convention of 1909 a mail vote was taken on three proposed amendments to the By-Laws. The first, providing that the *American Philatelist* should be issued quarterly instead of annually, was carried by a large vote. The other two were lost, although each had a good majority, through failure to receive the number of votes necessary to comply with the requirements of the By-Laws. They prohibited the editors of the official journal and the Sales Superintendent from holding proxies, and provided for proxies being voted only by the Credentials Committee.

President Luff called the Convention to order in the Hotel Rudolph, at Atlantic City, August 24th. The members in attendance numbered 79, with 32 visitors and 925 proxies. High water mark in the membership was again reached, the figures being 1757, a net gain of 243. New members to the number of 445 had been added, but 180 were dropped and 50 resigned. The total number of new members added during the administration of President Luff was 893, and the net gain in membership 552.

Handbook No. 1 was distributed at the Convention. It was by Carroll Chase, M. D., and the subject treated was the 3 cent stamp of 1851 of the United States.

An attempt to remove the prohibition on the holding of proxies by the Directors was defeated. A special committee was appointed to consider the question of the publication of a standard catalogue by the Society. Detroit was selected as the place of the next convention, and for the first time in many years the selection was by a unanimous vote. A post-convention trip to Philadelphia was taken, and the local members entertained the visitors with trips around the city, etc.

The result of the election was the choice of Henry N. Mudge as President, F. R. Cornwall, Chester Myers and Adelbert Strauss Vice-Presidents, H. S. Adair Secretary, W. P. Wherry Treasurer, L. H. Kjellstedt International Secretary, and C. A. Coolidge and A. H. Weber at large.

#### HENRY N. MUDGE, President.

1909—1911

One of the features of this year's work was the appearance of the *American Philatelist* as a quarterly publication. Owing to the general demoralization of the work of the Secretary's office its publication was considerably retarded, but the four numbers duly appeared and the publication still continues.

The attendance at Detroit was a record breaker, no less than 112 members and three applicants being registered, with a large number of visitors. The Convention was held in the Art Museum, where the local committee had installed a fine exhibit of stamps from local collections. President Mudge called the meeting to order and there were greetings from the local authorities. The proxy representation was 627. Great interest centered in the election for Secretary, W. H. Barnum winning by a single vote when the ballots were counted. This was the only contest, and the remainder of the Board was unchanged with the exception of H. J. Crocker, who succeeded A. H. Weber as Director at Large.

The membership was reported at 1733, a slight decrease from the previous year. This was largely due to the 242 members who were dropped for non-payment of dues, and who evidently were not followed up and urged to continue.

Very many important changes were made in the By-Laws, the committee sitting up nearly all night before concluding their deliberations. A system of records for the Secretary and Treasurer was carefully defined, and many other points made much clearer. The social element was well taken care of. A smoker, an auction, a steamer trip and dinner, with other attractions made the occasion most enjoyable. The enterprising publisher of the *Philadelphia Stamp News* issued three daily issues

of his paper during the Convention, and "The Philatelic Error," a local humorous production was much enjoyed by all, especially the cartoon representing the stamper from Pekin of General Coolidge, one of our esteemed hosts.

The fact that there was no call for a proxy vote during the entire Convention shows how harmonious was the gathering, and Chicago was given the honor of being the place for the Silver Anniversary Convention in 1911 by a unanimous vote.

A second "Handbook" was issued during the year by a committee of the Society, the subject matter being a catalogue and check list of essays for United States postage stamps, a subject upon which there is little literature. The compiler was Edward H. Mason, of Boston, and a supplement to this book is at this date being published in our official journal, the **Philadelphia Stamp News**.

As had been anticipated, the Chicago Convention of 1911 was a record breaker in many ways. When the registration figures were finally totalled there was found to have been 123 stockholders and two applicants in attendance, with almost as many visitors made up of the sisters, cousins and aunts, as well as other relatives of the members. There was even one visitor from far away Shanghai, which breaks the record for long distance attendance.

The registration of delegates commenced Monday afternoon, August 21, and as soon as the room was opened Vice-President Cornwall proceeded to invest President Mudge with a very handsome silver badge from the Chicago Philatelic Society, which bore his own likeness and of which each member registering received a replica. A set of souvenir stamps was also presented each delegate, which bore the head of Washington reproduced from the same die that was used to make the plate of the well known \$5.00 Proprietary stamp. The St. Louis delegation held open house in their headquarters, and each visitor received a handsome "Saint Louis" stamp button.

The formal opening was held in the Art Institute in the evening, with addresses of welcome by P. M. Wolsieffer, President of the Chicago Philatelic Society, and Director French of the Institute. President Mudge replied and then invited the members and their friends to a private view of the exhibition.

Space will not permit a summary here of what was shown or who won the prizes, but a full list of the awards will be found in the **American Philatelist** for November, 1911. Rarities were there galore, and what the intrinsic value of the exhibits was is difficult to estimate. That they aggregated over a quarter of a million dollars is to put it as low as is reasonable.

The result of the election as declared Tuesday morning showed the election of the present Board of Directors, consisting of Frederick R. Cornwall, President, Charles A. Coolidge, Herbert Bowen and C. F. Heyerman, Vice-Presidents, W. H. Barnum, Secretary, L. C. Hassler, Treasurer, L. H. Kjellstedt, International Secretary, Henry J. Crocker and William C. Stone Directors at Large. The only contest was between Mr. Stone and Mr. Charles A. Nast, the former winning by some forty votes.

The report of President Mudge summarized the work of the past year and the report of the Secretary showed a present membership of 1574, comparisons with last year not being possible on account of the confused state of the books when turned over to him. Proxies to the number of 479 were held at the Convention, but there was no demand for a roll call. The vote on the question of the official journalship was carried in favor of the **Philadelphia Stamp News**. Springfield, Massachusetts, was awarded the Convention of 1912 by a unanimous rising vote.

For the details of the legislation at the Convention I refer you to the first number of the current volume of the **American Philatelist**, where the Convention report will be found in full. The social side of the Convention was great. An evening trip on Lake Michigan, a forty mile "Seeing Chicago" trip by automobile, a banquet and

a visit to Riverview Park were among the leading features. Those who attended will never forget it.

And now we have entered upon our second quarter century. What our future will be depends upon the members. We must maintain a high standard. Let us not forget that it is quality and not quantity that counts in the end. That black sheep may creep into the Society need not alarm us. They are everywhere, even in the churches. We must be on the watch to prevent their admission and to procure their expulsion if by any means they should happen to slip into our organization.

And now my tale is at an end. To compress it within the limits necessary has been a hard task. But it has brought back many pleasant memories as I read the records of the past. I will not say farewell but "au revoir," for I expect you all in Springfield in August, 1912.

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### *Special Notice to A. P. S. Members*

The rules of the A. P. S. as interpreted by the Board of Vice-Presidents are, that all stamps shall be plainly marked with the name of the Country, catalogue number according to Scott's catalogue, and the catalogue price and the selling price, and the Sales Superintendent shall enter no books which do not comply with these provisions but shall return such books to the owner.

If entire Book is all from one Country the name of Country should be written on front cover. If all one page is of one Country and then changes to another Country, the name of such Country must be written over space where it changes. Should each stamp on a page or in a book be of a different Country then the name must be written over or in each space.

Owners of books making claims for substitution must return the books "intact" as retired by the Superintendent, in order to facilitate the detecting of offenders. If any stamps are removed it weakens the claim. Also it is strongly urged by the Supt. that but one kind of a hinge be used in a book.

Foreign members sending books to Sales Supt. should not place over \$95.00 net value in one parcel or letter, otherwise it will be held up by the U. S. Customs for a Consular Certificate, entry fee, etc., and there will be at least a thirty days' delay before it can be returned to the sender. Any shipment of \$100.00 valuation or over does not pass free without a charge.

P. M. WOLSIEFFER, Sales Supt.,

1301 Fort Dearborn Bldg., Chicago, Ill.

*Official Check List of United States Postage Stamps.*

Published by THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Compiled under the direction of the Committee on United States Catalogue consisting of Messrs. F. R. Cornwall, George L. Toppan, George H. Worthington, John N. Luff, Hiram E. Deats, E. M. Carpenter, C. A. Howes, J. Murray Bartels and Charles K. B. Nevin.

## REGULAR ISSUES 1847-1910

by

J. MURRAY BARTELS AND CHARLES K. B. NEVIN.

Please note the following corrections in the latter part of the list of whole numbers as used in the "Official Check List of United States Stamps," published on page 158 of the February issue of the *American Philatelist*.

| 1909 |                               | 1912 |      |
|------|-------------------------------|------|------|
| 244  | 2c Lincoln                    | 256  | 1c   |
| 245  | 2c Alaska-Yukon               | 257  | 2c   |
| 246  | 2c Hudson-Fulton              | 258  | 8c   |
|      | 1910 (single line watermark). | 259  | 10c  |
| 247  | 1c                            | 260  | 15c  |
| 248  | 2c                            | 261  | 50c  |
| 249  | 3c                            | 262  | 1.00 |
| 250  | 4c                            |      |      |
| 251  | 5c                            |      |      |
| 252  | 6c                            |      |      |
| 253  | 8c                            |      |      |
| 254  | 10c                           |      |      |
| 255  | 15c                           |      |      |

## ISSUE OF 1898.

Design: Same as 1895. See also 1894.

Paper: Soft, porous. Watermarked U S P S in double line letters. Spaced for one letter to each stamp.

Perforation: 12.

Gum: White to yellow.

Printed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D. C.

Size of Design: 19x22 mm.

Note: The agreement of the Post Office Department to adopt the colors assigned by the Universal Postal Union for the 1c and 5c stamps accounts for this issue. The other changes were made to avoid confusion. The 2c value already conformed to the U. P. U. ruling.

188 1c (Green).

Issued Jan. 17, 1898.

Number issued 5,216,159,932 (approximate).

Profile bust, Franklin. L.

a: Pale yellowish green.

- b: Yellow-green.
- c: Deep yellow-green.
- d: Dark yellow-green.
- e: Green.

189 4c (Red brown).

Issued Oct. 7, 1898.

Number issued 153,499,379 (approximate).

Portrait, Lincoln,  $\frac{3}{4}$  R.

- a: Deep dull claret.
- b: Dull claret.
- c: Pale brownish claret.
- d: Brownish claret.
- e: Deep claret-brown.
- f: Deep reddish brown.
- g: Reddish brown.
- h: Orange-brown.
- i: Deep orange-brown.

190 5c (Blue).

Issued March 8, 1898.

Number issued 279,622,170 (approximate).

Portrait, Grant,  $\frac{3}{4}$  R.

- a: Light blue.
- b: Bright blue.
- c: Blue.
- d: Dark blue.
- e: Dull blue.
- f: Indigo.

191 6c (Magenta).

Issued Dec. 31, 1898.

Number issued 46,457,540 (approximate).

Portrait, Garfield,  $\frac{3}{4}$  L.

- a: Purple-lake.
- b: Purplish claret-brown.
- c: Deep claret-brown
- d: Claret-brown.
- e: Bright claret-brown.
- f: Brown-red.

192 10c (Light brown).

Issued Nov. 11, 1898.

Number issued 107,653,668 (approximate).

Portrait, Webster,  $\frac{3}{4}$  L.

- a: Yellow-brown.
- b: Deep yellow-brown.
- c: Light orange-brown.
- d: Orange-brown.
- e: Reddish brown.
- f: Deep reddish brown.
- g: Brown.
- h: Dark brown.
- i: Dull claret-brown.

193 15c (Olive green).

Issued Nov. 30, 1898.

Number issued 15,993,313 (approximate).

Portrait, Clay,  $\frac{3}{4}$  L.

- a: Yellowish olive green.
- b: Deep yellowish olive green.
- c: Olive green.
- d: Deep olive green.
- e: Grayish olive green.
- f: Deep grayish olive green.
- aa: Faint impression, yellowish olive-green.

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ISSUE OF 1898 (Trans-Mississippi Issue).

Heads of wheat at top; ear of corn each side.

Paper: Soft, porous, watermarked sideways, U S P S in double line letters

Perforation: 12.

Gum: White to yellow.

Printed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D. C.

Size of design: 34x22 mm.

194 1c (Dark green).

Issued June 17, 1898.

Number issued 70,993,400.

"Marquette on the Mississippi."

- a: Yellowish green.
- b: Dark yellowish green.
- c: Green.

195 2c (Copper red).

Issued June 17, 1898.

Number issued 159,720,800.

"Farming in the West."

- a: Light brown-red.
- b: Brown-red.
- c: Bright claret-brown.
- d: Claret-brown.
- e: Deep claret-brown.

aa: Worn plate (various shades).

196 4c (Orange).

Issued June 17, 1898.

Number issued 4,924,500.

"Indian Hunting Buffalo."

- a: Orange.
- b: Deep orange.

197 5c (Dark blue).

Issued June 17, 1898.

Number issued 7,694,180.

"Fremont on Rocky Mountains."

- a: Light blue.
- b: Blue.
- c: Dark blue.
- d: Dull blue.

198 8c (Dark lilac).

Issued June 17, 1898.

Number issued 2,927,200.

"Troops Guarding Train."

- a: Dull brownish purple.
  - b: Brownish purple.
  - c: Deep brownish purple.
  - d: Bright brownish purple.
  - aa: Imperforate horizontally, bright brownish purple (a sheet of 50 was found at the Philadelphia Post Office).
- 199 10c (Slate).  
 Issued June 17, 1898.  
 Number issued 4,629,760.  
 "Hardships of Emigration."  
 a: Greyish purple.  
 b: Black-purple.
- 200 50c (Olive).  
 Issued June 17, 1898.  
 Number issued 530,400.  
 "Western Mining Prospector."  
 a: Sage green.  
 b: Dark sage green.
- 201 \$1.00 (Light brown) (Changed to black).  
 Issued June 17, 1898.  
 Number issued 56,900.  
 "Western Cattle in Storm."  
 a: Black.
- 202 \$2.00 (Sapphire blue) (Changed to light brown).  
 Issued June 17, 1898.  
 Number issued 56,200.  
 "Mississippi River Bridge."  
 a: Deep orange-brown.

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#### ISSUE OF 1901 (Pan-American Issue).

- Inscribed "Commemorative Series 1901."  
 Paper: Soft, porous.  
 Perforations: 12.  
 Gum: Yellowish white.  
 Printed by Bureau of Engraving and Printing, Washington, D. C.  
 Size of design: 26½x20 mm.
- 203 1c (Green).  
 Issued May 1, 1901.  
 Number issued 91,401,500.  
 "Fast Lake Navigation."  
 a: Light bluish green and black.  
 b: Dull bluish green and greyish black.  
 c: Dull bluish green and black.  
 d: Bright bluish green and black.  
 e: Dark bluish green and black.  
 aa: Center inverted, dull bluish green and black (about 700)
- 204 2c (Red).  
 Issued May 1, 1901.  
 Number issued 209,759,700.  
 "Fast Express."

- a: Pale scarlet and black.
- b: Scarlet and black.
- c: Pale carmine and black.
- d: Carmine and black.
- e: Deep carmine and black.

aa: Center inverted, carmine and black (53 unused and 1 used).

205 4c (Red brown).

Issued May 1, 1901.

Number issued 5,737,100.

"Automobile."

- a: Orange-brown and black.
- b: Deep orange-brown and black.
- c: Bright orange-brown and black.

aa: Center inverted, orange-brown and black.

*Not issued at Post Office. 206 exist, including the sheet of 100 in the files of the P. O. D. With very few exceptions they were hand-stamped "Specimen." Two sheets of 200 each were ordered by the Third Assistant Postmaster General, through whom they reached the public. The balance, 194, were destroyed.*

206 5c (Blue).

Issued May 1, 1901.

Number issued 7,201,300.

"Bridge at Niagara Falls."

- a: Pale ultramarine and black.
- b: Ultramarine and black.
- c: Deep ultramarine and black.

207 8c (Lilac).

Issued May 1, 1901.

Number issued 4,921,700.

"Canal Locks at Sault Sainte Marie."

- a: Claret-brown and black. (Scarce).
- b: Light purplish brown and black.
- c: Purplish brown and black.
- d: Dark purplish brown and black.

208 10c (Light brown).

Issued May 1, 1901.

Number issued 5,043,700.

"Fast Ocean Navigation."

- a: Yellow-brown and black.
- b: Deep yellow-brown and black.

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The Authors are anxious to receive suggestions and information regarding varieties not listed, or in fact anything that will throw light on the subject matter treated. They will be glad to give any further information they can, but wish to state that stamps must not be sent them for examination or for classification until previous definite arrangements have been made

### *An Obliging Post Office*

Probably the most colossal task ever undertaken by Great Britain is the making of India. One method of the making is disclosed in recently published statistics concerning the postal service. There are now nearly nineteen thousand postoffices in India. They are kept in working order by the ninety-two thousand persons. Last year mail trains travelled no less than 135,000,000 miles. But these were not the only carriers. While mail trains run over 32,000 miles of railway, many letters are carried by boat and by forest runners. As to the parcels post, over 900,000,000 articles—or more than three to each person in India—were entered last year at the post office for transmission. Though many of these articles were posted without even an address, and though many contained diamonds and other valuables, only eight out of every twenty-five hundred sent to the dead letter office failed to reach either the sender or the receiver.

In the money order department nearly twenty-five million money orders were issued, aggregating a hundred and forty-five million dollars. The opportunity for such an enormous business is indicated when we learn that a sum of \$1.33 may now be sent a distance of three thousand miles for two cents. In establishing a service combining the money order and parcels departments, the Indian post office is more obliging than most post offices. It will receive a parcel from a merchant, transmit it, collect the declared value from the addressee, and return the money to the seller; last year, in return for such parcels, the post office passed into the hands of tradesmen nearly twenty-eight million dollars. But because we have inaugurated a similar system, the post office savings bank depository is to us Americans a specially interesting feature; last year the post office savings bank depositories in India reported one and one-third million separate and active accounts, aggregating fifty-two and a half million dollars.

Finally, the Indian post office is philanthropic as is hardly any other, for in a malarial country like India it is of vital moment to the people that a post office should have for sale, as it has, small envelopes containing quinine. As one may rightly assume from the above, the varied features of the post office are doing much to commend British rule in India.—[*London Outlook*.]

## *China—Its Postal Organization and Postage Stamps*

[Illustrated through the courtesy of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.]

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By C. A. Howes.

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### INTRODUCTION.

China, that ancient and mysterious Empire; China, the home of a quarter of the human race; China, the land which claims to have originated so many of the arts, customs and inventions of civilization, but which finally stagnated and went to sleep as in the story of the "Sleeping Beauty," has finally awakened—the "Fairy Prince" has seemingly arrived in the guise of Western progress, though the awakening was hardly as gentle as the reputed kiss.

As the eyes of the political world are now turned toward the "Middle Flowery Land," so the eyes of the philatelic world have followed in due course, for changes in the one field usually portend accompanying variations in the other. Nor has China proved the exception; in fact, given the proper conditions in these latter days, where is the postal department that would not rise to its opportunities? And so, as "the old order changeth," it may be well to summarize here the facts concerning it.

The Chinese Empire, as recently constituted, was made up of China proper, sometimes called the "Eighteen Provinces" from the number of its political divisions, with the dependencies of Manchuria, Mongolia, Tibet and Chinese Turkestan. The area of China itself is over a million and a half square miles, while the dependencies add nearly twice as much more. The population, according to the latest Chinese estimates, is apportioned as 407 millions for China proper and 19 millions for the dependencies. This multitude of human beings was, until early in the present year, ruled from Peking by the Manchu Emperors, an alien dynasty which conquered the Chinese in 1644 A. D. The theory of the Chinese government was based upon the government of the family, and the Emperor as its head was therefore supreme. He was assisted by a Council of State, but the administration of the Empire was under the supervision of a cabinet of four principal and two assistant "chancellors," who directed its affairs through eight Governmental Boards. Each of the provinces was ruled over by a Governor, who was responsible to the Emperor for its entire administration, thus forming in each case a sort of imperium in imperio.

It is with the Military Board of the Government or "Ping Pu" that we first come in touch when considering the postal system of China. This system, like so many other things Chinese, reaches back to far antiquity, having apparently been instituted by the Chou dynasty which ruled the country from 1122 B. C. to 255 B. C. It was termed the I Chan or Government Courier Service, and has therefore been in operation for nearly 3,000 years. From the Post Office Report of 1904 we extract the following items concerning its operation:

"As actually working, this Service is placed under the supervision of the Board of War at Peking, where the Cart and Chariot Department, with seven officials at its head, superintends all I Chan affairs, both metropolitan and provincial, and keeps and audits accounts. Two Yamens, both under joint Manchu and Chinese directors,

keep up at the capital their connections with the provinces; one, known as the Horse Office, oversees the couriers and horses; the other, known as the Despatch Office, attends to the mails on arrival and departure. Thirty-four messengers are said to be perpetually on roster to maintain constant relations between these two Yamens and the head department in the Board of War. As detached from these central bureaux, sixteen Directors, all superior military graduates, are appointed by the Board of War to reside in the provincial capitals and keep up from there direct communication with Peking; the Director at each place depends on the Provincial Judge."

All covers for transmission through the I Chan to the provinces have first to be inspected and stamped at the Cart and Chariot Department; they are then sent to the Despatch Office and through the Horse Office, whose horses and men are requisitioned, are forwarded to the first stage or post-station on the journey. The district town there is responsible for the transmission to the next stage, and so on at each subsequent stage till the cover reaches its destination. Similarly, for provincial despatches to Peking, the provincial director attends to their despatch to the first stage from his end, and they proceed from stage to stage till they reach the Cart and Chariot Department at Peking, whence they are sent to the Yamen concerned.

"Any despatch so sent must be enclosed in an official cover indicating on a slip attached to it the I Chan cities through which it has to pass; this slip is annotated at each place with the date of the passage. According to the urgency of the message, the couriers travel from 200 to 600 li [67 to 200 miles] per day, and at each stage horses and men must, in principle, be kept in readiness.

"In addition to the transmission of despatches, the I Chan also provides means of transport for officials on transfer, but in this case, by regulation, the travellers must hold an authority to requisition horses and men at the official stages on the way.

"The sums spent for the maintenance of this large Service are not centralized in Peking, but are deducted at each district town from the local taxes to be reported to the provincial treasury, and thence yearly to the Throne."

It will be seen from the above that the Government Service was for official despatches, and did not serve the needs of the public at large; yet these needs were very real and therefore had to be supplied. Mr. H. B. Morse writes:

"The people of China are essentially a literary and commercial people, and in both capacities are a letter-writing people; and for centuries past they have attended to the transmission of their business and family correspondence with no more support or interference from the Government than is given to any other commercial undertaking. This they did by 'Letter Hong,' usually established by a remittance bank or a merchant's firm having its own business connections with certain other places, and having its own correspondence to forward, undertaking for a consideration to forward the letters of other people, and gradually extending their postal operations to other places in the same direction to which their ordinary business does not extend. Under this system very strong letter hong's have been developed, utilizing every means of conveyance, and meeting in every way the wishes of the public; maintaining fast special services where they are wanted, content with slow channels where economy is the first object, keeping open until after midnight when that hour is more suitable, and, most attractive in China, making the addressee pay a portion of the postage, usually half. They have a tariff, more or less fixed according to distance, ranging from 20 cash ( $\frac{1}{2}$ d.) to 200 cash (5d.) for each letter, but are not particular to an ounce or two in the weight, and these rates may be reduced to an important customer or commuted for an annual subsidy, while smaller people will ordinarily pay more, and addressees are regularly

mulcted in extra payments. On the whole the system has suited admirably the public which it serves, but has the fatal defect, from a national point of view, that it does not encourage postal development on lines not immediately profitable, the funds for this purpose, derived from the more profitable routes, being diverted to private pockets."

Here, then, we have two postal systems covering the Empire and dating back together into the dim past. The Government Post corresponds to our own Post Office Department, provided it were made a Bureau of the War Department and only official correspondence in "Penalty Envelopes" allowed to be transmitted by it. The Min-Chu or Hongs correspond to our former Express Delivery companies whose activities were suppressed by the Government as far as their postal character was concerned. But now a third postal system appears on the scene, due to the needs of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service which had been placed in the hands of European officials at the close of the Tai-ping rebellion. We quote again from the Post Office Report of 1904:

"Early in the 'sixties,' during the first few winters after Foreign Representatives took up their residence at Peking, the Legation and Customs mails were exchanged between Shanghai and Peking, under the auspices of the Tsungli Yamen,\* by means of the Government couriers employed for the transmission of official despatches. It was then found convenient to arrange that the Customs should undertake the responsibility of making up and distributing these mails, a practice which, for the overland service during the winter months, involved the creation of Postal Departments at the Inspectorate and in the Custom Houses at Shanghai and Chinkiang, and, similarly, for the transmission of mails by coast steamers during the open season, the opening of quasi-Postal Departments in the Tientsin and other coast port Custom Houses. At that early date it could be seen that out of this simple beginning might be elaborated a system answering other and larger requirements on the principle of a National Post Office. This idea gradually shaped into form and had already so much ingratiated itself in the official mind that in 1876, when the Chefoo Convention was being negotiated, the Tsungli Yamen authorized the Inspector General to inform the British Minister, Sir Thomas Wade, that it was prepared to sanction the establishment of a National Postal System and willing to make it a Treaty stipulation that postal establishments should be opened at once. Unfortunately, through, so to speak, a conspiracy of silence, the insertion of the postal clause was omitted in the official text of the Treaty, and thus the project was postponed *sine die*. Meanwhile, however, the experiment was persevered with and warmly encouraged by the Imperial Commissioner Li Chung-t'ang, who promised to 'father' it officially as soon as it proved a success. Hence the more formal opening of Postal Departments at various Custom Houses, the 1878 experiment of trying a Native Post Office alongside the Customs Post, and the establishment of Customs couriers from Taku to Tientsin, from Tientsin to Peking, and the Customs winter mail service overland from Tientsin to Newchwang, from Tientsin to Chefoo, and from Tientsin to Chinkiang, as also the introduction of Customs postage stamps in 1878.

"The growing importance of the Service thus quietly built up and its convenience for regular communications with Peking and between Treaty ports were not only appreciated by the Foreign public, but were also recognized by the Foreign Administrations having postal agencies in China. In 1878 China was formally invited to join the Postal Union. In the same year, while on a visit to Paris, the Inspector General was sounded by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs as to a possible way of withdrawing the French Post Office in Shanghai; and while, more

\* The Tsungli Yamen was the Chinese "Foreign Office."

than once, the British Postmaster General at Hongkong expressed his readiness to close the Hongkong Post Office agencies along the coast, arrangements were actually discussed for the absorption by the Customs Department of the Municipal Post Office at Shanghai. But no definite response to these overtures could be given, or final steps taken, before the Chinese Government had declared its intention to undertake national responsibilities; and the Customs Department continued to satisfy only certain wants and prepare the system for further development till, twenty years after the Chefoo Convention, the Decree of the 20th March, 1896, appeared. This Decree created an Imperial Post for all China, to be modelled on Western lines, the organization and management of which were confided to Sir Robert Hart, who from that date has acted in the double capacity of Inspector General of Customs and Posts.

"This long hesitation on the part of the Chinese Government to formally recognize and foster an institution known to have worked with such profitable results in Foreign countries, both from public and revenue standpoints, may be to some people a matter of surprise. But it must not be forgotten that from immemorial times the Chinese nation has possessed two postal institutions: one, the I Chan (or Imperial Government Courier Service), deeply rooted in official routine; the other, the Native posting agencies, long used and respected by the people. Both give employment to legions of couriers and are still necessary to the requirements of an immense nation; they can neither be suppressed, transformed, nor replaced at a stroke. The Imperial decision therefore only gave final sanction to a new and vast undertaking, but abolished nothing; it is through competition and long and persevering efforts that the two older systems must be gradually superseded and the implantation of the National Post Office patiently pursued."

#### THE ISSUE OF 1878.

According to Mr. J. Mencarini, in the Post Office Report for 1905, the first notification of the extension to the public of the Customs postal facilities appeared in the Shanghai newspapers in the following terms:

#### CUSTOMS NOTIFICATION.

##### Winter Service.

Postage Stamps and copies of Postal Tariff may be obtained on application at the Customs Postal Department.

(Signed) J. H. HART.

Shanghai, 16th December, 1878.

"This winter service was organized by the Tientsin Customs Commissioner, Mr. G. Detring, in 1876, so as to maintain, with an overland courier service via Chinkiang, the postal communications with the outer world necessarily interrupted by the port of Tientsin being ice-blocked.

"Mr. Detring sent to Shanghai one of his Writers, a Mr. Wu Kuan, who, under the control of the Shanghai Commissioner, supervised the overland courier service to the north. This department, which was called the Shu Hsin Kuan, or Post Office, was opened on July 24, 1878, and started with a staff of seventeen men."

We find, also, in the Report of the Tientsin Customs Commissioner for 1877-79: "In April, 1878, the Postal Department of the Tientsin Customs was, simultaneously with the Customs Postal Departments at Peking, Newchwang, Chefoo and Shanghai, thrown open to the public, and a daily courier service established between Tientsin and the capital.

"During the winter periods 1878-9 and 1879-80, Customs mails were forwarded overland to Chinkiang every other day, and vice versa.

"The mail service between Tientsin and Newchwang and Tientsin and Chefoo during the overland period 1879-80 was a weekly one."

There seems to be a conflict here between Mr. Mencarini and Mr. Detring on the date of opening the service to the public.

It might appear from the notice to the public, reproduced above, that the first issue of Customs Postage Stamps was made on the 16th December, 1878. They were in use, however, five months previously, as the writer has had the pleasure of seeing a set, "one of the first dozen ever sold," which was sent by Mr. H. B. Morse, who was then an assistant in the Post Office at Tientsin, to a friend in Boston. It was evidently thought that they would be more interesting in a cancelled condition, as they each bear the dated postmark of the Tientsin Customs on July 26, 1878. As Mr. Mencarini tells us that all the first supply of stamps, according to the records obtainable, "were forwarded to Tientsin in August, 1878," the above date is undoubtedly the day of issue, even if it is a little before "August, 1878"—a few sheets may have been sent up ahead of the main stock. Mr. Mencarini continues: "Anyhow, the first stamps for the Shanghai Office were received from Tientsin on the 23rd November, 1878, in the following quantities:

5 candarins : 1000 sheets = 25,000 stamps.  
 3 candarins : 1000 sheets = 25,000 stamps.  
 1 candarin : 1000 sheets = 25,000 stamps.



The stamps are, of course, familiar to all philatelists and it will doubtless be noticed that in design they were copied almost directly from the old first issue of Stanghai. They were engraved on copper by a native artisan and printed at the Customs Statistical Department at Shanghai. The central design naturally represents the dragon, the mythical beast so feared and yet revered by the Chinese. Standing pre-eminent as he does among all creatures, he furnishes a comparison for everything terrible, imposing and powerful, and is thus symbolical of the Emperor, upon whose robes of state of imperial yellow his likeness is embroidered, and on whose imperial standard we find him in blue upon a yellow field. He is four footed and each foot has five claws if for use in pictures, embroideries or figures used by the imperial court or under its authority; for all other uses the representation must contain but four claws. It will be observed that upon the stamps there are the five claws which show them to have been issued under official authority.

Pictures of the dragon, or lung, are almost always accompanied by certain accessories which can be recognized on the stamp. The curved or wavy lines beneath represent the sea, with a dot for the opening of the cave from whence he issued; the "curls" scattered around him (see the Shanghai stamps) represent clouds; and the "ball" beneath his head and within the curve of his body is the pearl or gem which the dragon is popularly supposed to carry on its forehead or in its beard, and to which are ascribed wonderful virtues and powers of healing. It is called the yeh-kuang chu or "night shining pearl" and is variously described as

a diamond, pearl or carbuncle which is "as brilliant as a fire and shines like a star." The horns branching from it are the Chinese symbol for its radiant light.

The inscriptions in Chinese on the stamps read: in the upper right corner **Ta**, and in the upper left **Ch'ing**, the combination **Ta Ch'ing** or "Great Pure" being the designation adopted by the Manchus for the dynasty whose days have recently closed. At the right, reading downward, is **Yu cheng Chu** or "Postal Bureau." At the left is **i (san or wu) fen yin**, that is "1 (3 or 5) candarins, silver." The candarin or "tael cent" is a money of account, not a coin, and is supposed to be the equivalent of ten of the brass "cash" as the tael is nominally equal to 1000. The value of the tael varied from \$1.45 in 1878 to 81 cents in 1896, when the "dollar cent" was adopted, so that the equivalent in United States money of the candarin varied from about a cent and a half to four-fifths of a cent.

Interest in these stamps was never very great until of late years, as they were at first considered more in the nature of locals than anything else. But as their status has been fully established, and as succeeding issues have turned the attention of philatelists more and more toward China, it has resulted in showing that there is very much of interest in this first issue and some obscure points yet to be cleared up.

Mr. Mencarini tells us that these stamps were engraved on copper, and a careful examination of the three values shows very quickly that, although so similar, they are in each case separate engravings. Again, comparing stamps of the same value, we find that in spite of slight "flaws" which can be found, they are undoubtedly reproductions of a single original die. Looking further at the separate impressions, it is evident that they were typographed, from which we therefore deduce the fact that the printing plate was made up of electrotypes or similar clichés reproduced from the original die. That this is so is corroborated by the fact that certain varieties caused by the "flaws" in the clichés are found in different locations in different sheets, proving that there are several "settings" of the group of clichés for printing at various periods. Then, too, impressions of stamps shown by dated postmarks to have been issued in the early years of their use are much clearer and finer in their lines than stamps issued just previous to the appearance of the 1885 set, which are coarser in all their details, due to wear.

Further details show that the stamps were printed on wove paper of two qualities, one a thin, transparent, almost pelure paper, and the other a thicker, more opaque paper. Then, again, we find that some of the impressions on the thin paper have unusually wide margins, and pairs or blocks of these latter, when we are fortunate enough to get them, are found to be spaced  $4\frac{1}{2}$  to 5 mm. apart where the more common spacing is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{3}{4}$  mm.

It will be seen from the above that there is plenty of material to warrant an investigation of the issue, and the late Mr. Edward J. Nankivell seems to have been the first to undertake it, his results having been published in *The Postage Stamp*. Later Mr. C. L. Harte-Lovelace, who had also been studying the problem, published his more extensive investigations in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*. The results showed that there were apparently three periods into which the issue could be divided: A, from July 26, 1878, to about the middle of 1882; B, from the middle of 1882 to May, 1883; C, from May, 1883, to Nov. 25, 1885, when the new set appeared. These periods were naturally determined by dated postmarks, either used as cancellations on the stamps or on covers bearing the stamps. It was found that the thin paper with the narrow spacing was the characteristic of set A; that the thin paper and wide spacing appear only in the year, approximately, that period B occupies; and that the thicker paper with the narrow spacing characterized set C, the remaining period of issue. Mr. Mencarini gives March 3, 1883, as the date of the

introduction of the thicker paper, hence we have taken that as being official. Mr. Hart-Lovelace speaks of fourteen dated copies of set B, all of which lie between July 1882 and May 1883, and the writer has a copy on cover dated Oct 3 82, so that this period of less than a year probably fairly well covers the use of the wide margin stamps, which are somewhat scarce at any rate. Scarcer yet is the 1 candarin of this wide margin set on the thicker paper of the next series. Mr. Hart-Lovelace has found it watermarked with the large double-lined capitals ON—evidently part of the manufacturer's watermark, but unknown on any of the other stamps.

Entire sheets of these stamps, or even large blocks, are extremely difficult to find, but enough have been examined to show that the earlier printings—with narrow spacing on thin paper—were in sheets of 25, five rows of five, which corresponds with Mr. Mencarini's figures for the first supply sent to Shanghai, viz.: 1000 sheets = 25,000 stamps. The writer has seen a sheet of the 3 candarins which had large margins at the top and bottom, about 40 mm., and quite narrow ones at the sides, about 5 mm., but there are other sheets whose top and bottom margins are much narrower. Next, the sheets of set B—the wide spacing on thin paper—were found to be also of 25 cliches, arranged five by five as before but in a different setting, as shown by new locations for certain well marked varieties. Lastly, the sheets of set C—the narrow spacing again on the thicker paper—have but twenty cliches, arranged in five rows of four stamps each. This corresponds with Mr. Mencarini's statement in his "Descriptive Catalogue" in the Customs Report that these stamps were "typographed in blocks of twenty," which does not agree with his previous statement of the first supplies sent to Shanghai. The reasons for the disagreement we have set forth in this paragraph.

We have spoken of varieties in the cliches which serve to show that there were different settings for each type of sheet in each value. Mr. Hart-Lovelace has endeavored to plate these varieties, caused by "flaws" in the cliches, and states that he has noted twelve in the case of the 1 candarin. The most noticeable variety has a break in the outer frame line beneath the C of CANDARIN. This is a left margin stamp in the first setting, but just which row it is in is not revealed by the block of four in the writer's collection, except that it is *not* the first row. In set B, the wide spacing, Mr. Hart-Lovelace states that it is number eight in the sheet—the third stamp in the second row. In set C, made up of but twenty cliches to the sheet, it is omitted altogether, but there is another with two smaller breaks in the frame line under A and N of CANDARIN.

The most noticeable variety of the 3 candarin is a V-shaped mark in the lower left corner of the central design. Mr. Hart-Lovelace states that this is number 21 in the sheet of set A—the first stamp in the fifth row—while in set C it is the last stamp—number twenty. There are two prominent varieties of the 5 candarin, one without a stop after CHINA and the other having the character in the upper right corner touch the frame line beneath it. The "no stop" variety is number fourteen in set A—the fourth stamp in the third row. The second variety is number eight in set A—the third stamp in the second row—and number four in set C—the last stamp in the first row.

All the sheets are perforated 12½ with a guillotine machine, but the 3 and 5 candarins of the first set have been found imperforate. All three values are known imperforate but on a thicker, brownish paper; these are impressions made on the wrappers of the packages of stamps sent to post offices, to show the contents.

As might be expected, there are a number of shades for each stamp, several of which are characteristic. The reference list may be made up as follows:

July 26, 1878. Perforated 12½.

A. Thin paper, narrow margins.

- 1 candarin, yellow green, green, deep green.
- 3 candarins, bright red, orange red, dull red.
- 5 candarins, yellow, yellow ochre, bistre.

Imperforate.

- 3 candarins, red.
- 5 candarins, yellow.

June (?) 1882.

B. Thin paper, wide margins.

- 1 candarin, pale green, green.
- 3 candarins, red, dull red.
- 5 candarins, buff, orange buff.

Thicker paper, wide margins, (sometimes watermarked).

- 1 candarin, deep green.

March 3, 1883.

C. Thicker paper, narrow margins.

- 1 candarin, pale green, green, light sage green.
- 3 candarins, vermillion, red, dull red, brown red.
- 5 candarins, yellow, orange yellow, orange.

Mr. Mencarini, in his article in the Post Office Report of 1905, gives the numbers of the above stamps which were used during their issue. Sets A and B, both on the thin paper, are given together, no distinction being made for the sheets in the wide spacing. Probably the date given for the "thick paper" issue is that of beginning to print in sheets of twenty, as we doubt if "much stock was taken," so to speak, in the slight difference of paper thickness by the authorities. Mr. Harte-Lovelace thinks this the most probable explanation, as he does not find the stamps on thick paper as common as the figures might indicate.

1878—1883. Thin paper.

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 candarin, stamps issued .....  | 89,011  |
| 3 candarins, stamps issued ..... | 288,828 |
| 5 candarins, stamps issued ..... | 137,865 |

1883—1885. Thicker paper.

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1 candarin, stamps issued .....  | 117,475 |
| 3 candarins, stamps issued ..... | 269,940 |
| 5 candarins, stamps issued ..... | 101,745 |

The cancellations used on these stamps were the dated postmark of the offices, and an obliterator containing the name of the office in Chinese characters. The postmark was a double lined circle with CUSTOMS above, between the circles, and the name of the office similarly beneath, the two separated by two Maltese cross-like ornaments. The date is given in two lines in the center, e. g., OCT 10-85. The Inspectorate General or head office at Peking has its postmark labelled I. G. of CUSTOMS with PEKING at the bottom. I also have a slightly crude (evidently Chinese made) postmark labelled POST OFFICE above and CHLNKIANG below, dated 4 APR 79, the month set vertically between the figures.

The obliterations were of oval form containing several bars, some at right angles to the others, but forming a "box" in the center wherein were the Chinese characters for the office. Not all of the offices had these obliterations, apparently, as only a few out of the many Treaty Ports have been noted. Those I have are: Peking, Newchwang, Yentai (Chefoo), Tientsin, Shanghai and Ichang. There is one

other, entirely filled with Chinese characters, which is fairly common but always so poorly impressed that I have never been able to decipher the inscription.

Occasionally one comes across a cancellation reading, for example, HANKOW CUSTOMS in a curve with MAIL MATTER beneath also in a curve, the two being concave toward each other and separated at each end by two stars. Mr. Mencarini says this type was used for franking the official mails of the Customs or its employees. I have only seen it impressed in red. Some of the postmarks are impressed in red, some in dull blue, and others in black. The obliterations are in dull blue or black.

In regard to the use of the Customs stamps, it may be said that they franked mail matter between the Customs Post Offices (including the head office at Peking) alone, and were thus in a way "local," but no more so than the 1 penny black of Great Britain before postal treaties were entered into with other countries by which British stamps were recognized outside of Great Britain. Letter postage was 3 candarins per half ounce between any of the Treaty Ports, including Peking, but excepting Pakhoi and Kiungchow in the extreme south. To these two the rate was doubled, or 6 candarins per half ounce. To Japan and Korea, and the United States via Japan the rate was 6 candarins per half ounce, the extra 3 candarins paying for the Postal Union stamp placed on the letter by the Customs office to carry the missive in the International mails. Letters to Hongkong and Postal Union countries generally were 9 candarins per half ounce, but if the sender placed the required Postal Union stamps on the letter only the inland Chinese rate was required in Customs stamps.

#### THE ISSUE OF 1885.

A new issue of improved design was brought out the latter part of 1885, on November 25th, as stated by Mr. Mencarini. The stamps were reduced in size but retained the main features of their predecessors.



They were "typographed" at Shanghai, according to Mr. Mencarini, but an examination of the stamps themselves leads one to conclude that they look suspiciously like lithographs, and the poor printing of the stamps and many blotches occurring on them but add to this opinion. The general design, at any rate, is evidently taken from a single original engraving in this case, the proper additions for the different values being added subsequently. The sheets are arranged in two panes, side by side, of twenty stamps to the pane, each in five rows of four like the last sheets of the previous issue. The panes are separated by a strip of about 4 mm. width between the perforations.

The paper is thin wove, being intermediate between the two papers of the previous issue, but it contains a watermark arranged to fall once on each stamp of the sheet. This watermark, sometimes erroneously termed a "shell," is the yin-yang symbol much used in Chinese geomancy. It is a graphic illustration of the two principles of nature, illustrated by the male and female in animate objects, by the union of which all things were produced. The form given in the watermark is

supposed to represent the two agencies in motion, revolving around each other and, by their mutual operation, creating and destroying, thus giving rise to the phenomena of nature. The white form is the *yang*, or male principle; the dark form (represented by the shading) the *yin*, or female principle.

This series of stamps falls naturally into two sets through its perforations. The stamps first issued were perforated with the guillotine machine used for the previous issue and hence are perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , but the machine was becoming worn and did not operate cleanly and sharply—often the discs of paper were not removed from the holes. In 1889 the stamps began to appear with a clean-cut  $11\frac{3}{4}$  perforation from a new machine, also of the guillotine type. Mr. Hart-Lovelace says his earliest postmarked copy is dated in March, 1889, and he has several of the previous set dated the same year, whence he concludes that the new machine was brought into use early in 1889.

Not only were the stamps poorly printed—they were printed with poor inks, apparently fugitive inks, readily affected by light and moisture, as those who have attempted to soak them may have discovered to their regret. The 1 candarin is listed both on white paper and on yellowish paper, and the difference is quite marked; but the examination of blocks of the yellowish paper shows in many cases that the cause is a staining by a yellow ingredient in the ink—the stain sometimes not extending far beyond the outer frame, so that the perforations lie in a white border. It has been claimed that the yellow stain could be washed out so as to make the white paper stamp; this may be so, but I have the white stamps with original gum, and I think the stained stamps are undoubtedly specimens which have been more or less exposed to moisture, seeing that the inks used are affected by it.

There are few prominent varieties in this issue. In earlier sheets of the 1 candarin, on the left hand pane, stamp number ten—the second in the third row—has a break in the frame line beneath the first N of CANDARIN. A curious variety occurs in the right hand pane also as number ten—the second stamp of the third row—whose dimensions are about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm. smaller each way than the other stamps. This again looks like lithgraphic work, due to shrinkage of the transfer paper. A second “setting,” according to Mr. Harte-Lovelace, has this stamp in the left hand pane as number fifteen—the third in the fourth row—while the one with the break under N of CANDARIN is in the right pane as number twelve—the last in the third row. About 1889 a white “flaw” appeared across the upper left corner of stamp number twelve in the left hand pane—the second in the fourth row—and two breaks in the right hand frame line of number nine—the first in the third row. A later and third setting has these two rows transposed, as well as the first two rows, and the stamps of the last row rearranged. There are two of the 5 candarin stamps showing breaks in the outer frame line, one being about a third of the way down from the top on the right side, and the other a little below the top on the left side. By the aid of these Mr. Harte-Lovelace determines three settings of this value. He has also found two settings for the 3 candarins, due to one of the stamps being out of line with the others.

From the nature of the inks used the shades found on these stamps are numerous, and allowances must be made for changes due to outside influences. The reference list may be made up as follows:

Nov. 25, 1885. Watermarked *Yin-yang*.

A. Perforated  $12\frac{1}{2}$ .

1 candarin, pale green, green, (blue green when soaked).

3 candarins, rose lilac, lilac.

5 candarins, bistre, brown bistre, olive yellow.

Jan. (?) 1889.

B. Perforated 11¾.

- 1 candarin, pale green, green.
- 3 candarins, rose lilac, lilac.
- 5 candarins, bistre, olive yellow.

Of the numbers issued of this series of stamps we can only give the totals as taken from the Post Office Report of 1904, which does not take cognizance of the difference in perforation:

|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| 1 candarin .....  | 508,667 |
| 3 candarins ..... | 850,711 |
| 5 candarins ..... | 348,161 |

The cancellations on this issue are the same as for the previous one, except that the obliterations seem to be much more frequently employed than the dated postmarks. Two new obliterations for Tientsin and Shanghai (the latter in the "seal character" style) are found in frequent use.

(To be continued)

### *Balloon Post at Paris Siege*

In these days of aeroplanes and new sky event records, one overlooks the fact that the past has seen some remarkable aeronautic events. Recently considerable comment was caused over the attempt to carry mail from an outgoing steamer back to land by an aviator. History has a more noted example of this kind. In a stamp collection are two covers, one a small post-card and the other a letter on thin paper, both postmarked in Paris in October, 1870, and addressed to a party in England, and marked "par ballon-monte." They are relics of an historic event of great importance, for at this time Paris was beleaguered by the Prussians and all communication, except by air, completely cut off. The Germans took every precaution to maintain an impenetrable line about the city.

All kinds of attempts were made to get letters out of Paris into the hands of friends in other parts of France. Men attempted to pass the German lines by stealth, or in disguise, or by swimming the wintry waters of the Seine. Few got through. A telegraph cable had been laid secretly in the bed of the river as soon as the capital was threatened but the Germans discovered this at the outset and cut it. Letters enclosed in hollow balls were floated down the stream but the enemy established barriers and nets that caught every bit of drifting debris.

One of the first schemes employed was the balloon, and this proved the only practical and successful one. On September 23, only five days after the investment, the first balloon successfully got away. An aeronaut by the name of Durouf made the ascent with 250 pounds of mail matter, written on thin paper, and after a flight of three and a quarter hours descended near Evreux, some 65 miles away and forwarded the letters. The balloon service was continued all through the siege from Sept. 23, 1870, to Jan. 28, 1871. Sixty-five ascensions were made. The loads varied from 200 to 1000 pounds. Single postage was fixed at twenty centimes (four cents) and prepayment obligatory. The postal administration had just before the siege sent out almost its entire stock of stamps and the mint was busily engaged in printing stamps with the head of Ceres (symbolic of the Republic). The stamps with the head of Napoleon III had been declared unavailable for postage, but this

action was almost immediately rescinded as they were almost the only stock they had on hand. So both kinds of stamps were used on the letters, but usually the latter.

Naturally the balloons ran many risks, not only of the elements, but from the Prussians who fired upon them whenever seen; therefore most ascents were made at night. Dirigibles were not then invented and the balloons took whatever course the winds directed, falling now in friendly hands, now in the camp of the enemy. A list of the balloons, giving date of ascent, size, aeronauts, weight of letters carried, number of passengers and pigeons, and hour of landing, is hanging in the waiting room of the offices of the Under Secretary of Posts in Paris. Meagre as are the details they tell a story of intense interest. Two fell into the sea and the passengers were drowned, although many of their letters were subsequently washed ashore by the waves and delivered; one fell near Land's End and the other in the Bay of Biscay. The following are a few of the more interesting instances: Balloon No. 1 was a paper balloon which was loaded with postal cards. It alighted in the Prussian lines and its contents were captured. The Garibaldi ascended Oct. 22 with nearly 1000 pounds of letters and landed safely. The Jules-Favre No. 1 descended in Belgium. L'Archimede came to earth in Holland. La Ville d'Orleans sailed as far as Norway before it landed. Le Jacquard was lost at sea near Plymouth, England. La Ville de Paris descended in Prussia and the aeronaut and mail were captured by the enemy. Le General-Chanzy descended in Bavaria and was also captured. Le Richard-Wallace was lost at sea.

The balloons cost the Government from \$1000 to \$1200 each, but the quantity of mail carried was sufficient to realize a profit. It was about this time that a Parisian editor, M. Jouaust of *Le Petit Journal*, originated the idea of the letter-journals. On a thin sheet of paper, on the first leaf was printed in fine type the events of the siege for two or three days previous. The other leaf was left blank for personal correspondence. Nineteen different journals issued them, usually semi-weekly, and the yare now very rare.

Communication with Paris from the outside was even more difficult than getting information out, and the only successful method was by pigeons. Before the siege, during August, 1870, a M. Segelas asked permission to establish a dove-cote in the tower of the post office building which permission was granted, though with little idea of how valuable it was to become. The first message was brought into Paris by some of these pigeons, carried out on Sept. 10th when part of the post office department was moved to Tours in anticipation of the siege. These messages were written by hand on pelure paper and required a glass to read. Some were badly soiled by rain. Later the balloons carried out the pigeons to be used on the return. Despatches were printed on cards and reduced by photography to such minuteness that a single pigeon could carry in a water-proof quill attached to its tail thousands of despatches. 50 centimes (10 cents) per word were charged for private messages. The second pigeon to arrive in Paris carried despatches on which the postage represented 300,000 francs. Not all the pigeons by any means got safely through, and messages were repeated in some cases as many as thirty times before an answer was received by balloon post. The winter of 1870-71 was a rigorous one, and after December only about five per cent of the pigeons started reached their destination. The balloon post was resorted to again in the Boer War in South Africa, but this combination of balloon post and pigeon post of the siege of Paris is the most interesting instance of aerial postage in all history, and the few relics of it left, in the form of letters of the period, are worth more than a passing glance.—[Selected.]

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- AUSTRALIAN (SOUTH) RAILWAY STAMPS, **T-P** XXIV('86)70, XXVII('89)65.
- AUSTRALIAN SPECIMEN STAMPS, **AusP** VII('00-1)117, **PCle&A** X('01)43, **SCF** VII('01-2)133.
- AUSTRALIAN STAMPS, **Frauds in**, **LP** XVIII('09)77.
- AUSTRALIAN STAMP MACHINES, **AusP** XIV('07-8)72.  
**Bill to be Reintroduced**, **LP** XVIII('09)175.
- AUSTRALIAN STAMP-VENDING MACHINES, **AusP** XIV('07-8)96, XV('08-9)15-50.
- AUSTRALIAN STAMPS, (Gen.) [Smyth, J. H.] **AusP** XIV('07-8)57-142, XV('08-9)2;—**FAusP** I('90)1;—**GSW** VIII('08)147-221, [Yokel] 251-266-328, IX('09)424;—**MWSN** XX('06)436;—**PS(L)** III('08-9)180;—**SC(B)** XIII('09)93;—**SGMJ** IX('98-9)11.  
**Repudiated by Great Britain**, **AusP** XV('08-9)89.
- AUSTRALIAN TELEGRAPH STAMPS, [Basset-Hull, A. F.] **FAusP** I('90)3-32-56.  
**C. of T. S.**, [Wilson] **PR(L)** XI('89)(Sup)42-54.
- AUSTRALIAN UNCATALOGUED VARIETIES, **SCF** VI('00-1)92, **MWSN** XIV('00)341.
- AUSTRALIAN, VALUE OF STAMPS, **GSW** I('05)355.
- AUSTRALIAN WANDERINGS OF A PHILATELIST, [Vindin, D. A.] **VinPM** V('91-2)147-164, VI('92-3)6-31-70-98-175.
- AUSTRALIAN WATERMARKS, **EwnWSN** (1905)937.  
(Correct) **Crown**, **AusP** XV('08-9)61;—**PS(L)** IV('09)43.
- AUSTRALIAN 1863-1900 ISSUES, **AusP** VI('99-00)92.
- AUSTRALIANS, MODERN, **PJGB** XVI('06)160.
- AUSTRALIA'S GRAND OLD STAMP, 5d. **Diadem**, See "New South Wales."
- AUSTRALIA'S INCOME from Stamp Collectors, **GSW** VII('08)19.
- AUSTRIA, (Gen.) **AmJP**(2) VIII('95)305, IX('96)33, XIII('00)106-309, XVII('04)309, XIX('06)315;—**GSW** I('05)140, IV('06)56-104-185, VI('07)3-12-27-107-155-254-382-397-415, VII('08)29-32-46-62-71-175-270-286-416½, VIII('08)32-270-381, IX('09)31-293-405, XII('10)226;—**InP(B)** I('94-5)56-69;—**MWSN** XXIII('09)195;—**P(B)** I('67)106-123-136-168, II('68)16, III('69)102, IV('70)2-38-85-97, V('71)2-8, VI('72)2-7-139-155, VII('73)6-40, VIII('74)2, IX('75)15-95-126, X('76)18-103-119;—**PR(L)** XXX('08)40-120;—**PS(L)** II('08)14-82;—**PSptr** II('00)13;—**SCAnn** ('07)27, ('08)24;—**SCF** XIV('08-9)250;—**SCM** I('63)27-108-112, IV('66)24-35, VI('68)3-14-96, VII('69)89-81-160, VIII('70)122-128-187, IX('71)2-136, X('72)15-146-171-187, XI('73)39;—**SJ(D)** I('08)11.
- AUSTRIA, Abbreviations on Stamps, **PJGB** VII('97)91.
- AUSTRIA, Auction Sale, First Important, **LP** XX('11)219.

AUSTRIA, *Beginners*, JrSC(B) II('98)21-33-39-50-65-77;—[Taylor, O.] SCM VIII('70) 169, IX('71)5.

AUSTRIA, *Bisected Stamps*, PR(L) XXI('99)14.

AUSTRIA, C. for A. C., [Collin & Calman] AmJP(2) II('89)419.

AUSTRIA, C. of W., [Nankivell] GSW II('05)177.

AUSTRIA, *Chronicle*, AmP II('87-8)93-148-206-237, III('88-9)71-103-246, IV('89-90)57-76-149-211-284, V('90-1)7-38-73-108-126-209, VI('92)6-50-96-129-162, VII('93)81;—AmJP(2) I('88)19-251, II('89)93-137-183-371, III('90)193-365-444-490, IV('91)85-133-322-368-422, V('92)195-296-430-523-581, VI('93)242-539, VII('94)97-300, VIII('95)88-309-365, IX('96)125, X('97)130-272-464, XIII('00)38-77-109-140, XIV('01)322, XV('02)20-84-210-387, XVI('03)59-276-426, XVII('04)415-469, XVIII('05)92-269-334, XIX('06)62-214-289-318-373;—AS&Co-MC II(Sep. '76)2, III('77)19-99, IX('83)65-74, XII('86)34, XVI('90)58-66-74, XVII('91)26-38-54-62, XX('94)74, XXI('95)18, XXII('96)1-34-66, XXIII('97)102, XXVI('00)170-178-186-226, XXVII('01)26-106-114-122, XXVIII('02)2-10-19-43, XXX('04)86-94, XXXI('05)19-26-50, XXXII('06)2-51-59, XXXIII('07)42-51-83;—LP I('92)99-139-171-266-326, II('93)167-202, III('94)52-225, IV('95)55-173-330, V('96)55, VI('97)171-297, VIII('99)218-337, IX('00)24-87-121-151-179, X('01)18-77-160-187-252-279-306, XI('02)18-46-74-97, XII('03)154-248, XIII('04)45-76-132-232-283, XIV('05)20-264, XV('06)45-157-188-208-224, XVI('07)18-96-150-266-299, XVII('08)21-43-71-100-270, XVIII('09)23-131-159;—PIJ(B) I('72)27-48-78-83-155-167-172-175, II('75)4-34-44;—PJGB I('91)39-90-103-131-146-174-200, II('92)13-52-77-94-156-214-236, III('93)21-39-55-76-165-195, IV('94)16-76-109-126-157-178, V('95)16-30-81-118-144-224, VI('96)40-115, VII('97)113-142-158-251-277-302, VIII('98)35-154, IX('99)12-30-91-190-236, X('00)32-51-66-105-122-139-161-180-201, XI('01)11-30-55-84-102-114-145-160-189, XII('02)21-41-58-92-137-171-189, XIII('03)49-103-148, XIV('04)24-108-140-178-194, XV('05)5-45-59-80-115-165, XVI('06)24-60-101-141-174-214;—PR(L) IV('82-3)14-124, V('83-4)11-136, VI('84-5)12, VIII('86-7)50-64, XI('89)23, XII('90)151-170-190-205, XIII('91)15-71-121-148, XIV('92)19, XV('93)22, XVII('95)35, XVIII('96)47, XIX('97)324, XX('98)72, XXII('00)20-72, XXIII('01)43-112-199;—SGMJ I('90-1)13-30-50-72-95-120-149-170-233, II('91-2)6-26-46-69-88-112-141-208-259-322-352-380, III('92-3)3-19-39-62-84-98-122-186-210, IV('93-4)79-138-155, V('94-5)2-18-35-63-66-83-114-147-169-186, VI('95-6)3-22-134-138-142-155-180-187-191-219, VII('96-7)125-177-193-210, VIII('97-8)65-97-114-123-130-210-227, IX('98-9)14-20-35-56-89-147-154-161-176, X('99-10)4-60-74-101-151-177-205-226-245-265-274, XI('00-1)9-26-39-45-66-74-91-100-114-121-139-146-169-187-217-237-274-276, XII('01-2)20-85-108-143-155-160-180-241, XIII('02-3)6-24-55-91-109-127-158-181-214-237-261, XIV('03-4)8-19-26-39-69-90-107-114-138-161-250, XV('04-5)25-99-117-162-186-206-246, XVI('05-6)133-174-224-240-241, XVII('06-7)6-50-90-177-221-241, XVIII('07-8)26-50-126-154-198-218-238;—T-P I('63)10-11-15, III('65)18, IV('66)55-100, V('67)20-34-44-52-59-66-75-82, VI('68)3, VII('69)60-75, VIII('70)10-14-34-44-51-58, IX('71)49-91, X('72)2-18-20-35-83, XI('73)4-21-28-69-74, XII('74)2-25-50-59-74-91, XIII('75)10-18-35-43-61-67, XIV('76)18-35-42-50-66-83-89, XV('77)2-52-74, XVI('78)13-77, XVII('79)38-49-81-96, XVIII('80)66-75-96, XIX('81)3-55-77, XX('82)13-45-65-89-98-109, XXI('83)9-25-34-65-73-81, XXII('84)78-89-97, XXIII('85)53-83, XXIV('86)17-25-33-53-70-82-90-103, XXV('87)47-101, XXVI('88)1-18-46-53-85, XXVII('89)9-33-74-97-107, XXVIII('90)29-41-50-70-85-94-106-117, XXIX('91)2-14-39-51-77-105-126, XXX('92)25-38-49-73-86-97-109, XXXI('93)1-13-42, XXXII('94)1-77-89-103-129-142, XXXIII('95)2-17-70-81-145, XXXIV('96)25-50, XXXV('97)65-145-162-178, XXXVI('98)17-82-98-161, XXXVII('99)33-49-65-145, XXXVIII('00)194-209-225-242-258-337.

AUSTRIA, *Collection*, In Tapling [T. K.], [Smith, G.] SGMJ IX('98-9)290, X('99-00) 110-130.

AUSTRIA, *Commemorative Stamps*, GSW IV('06)363;—PR(L) XXIX('07)126;—PS(L) IV('09)119;—SJ(F) IV('11)212;—T-P XXXVIII('00)323-324-326.

- 1908 Issue, **PR(L)** XXIX('07)126-145-148, XXX('08)11-18-62-83;—**PS(L)** I('07-8)13;—**RedSW** II(Jan. 18, '08)1-4-5, (Feb. 8, '08)6;—[Poole, B. W. H.] **WEP** IV('07-8)161.
- 1910 Issue, **AtoP** I('09-10)115;—**BulFSC** I(Feb. '08)3;—**GSW** XII('10)208-329;—**PJAm** XXI('10)164.
- AUSTRIA, Complementary Stamps, P(B)** I('67)46;—**SCM** II('64)48.
- AUSTRIA, Decree, AmJP(2)** IV('91)219;—**AS&Co-MC** XVI('90)66;—**PR(L)** XVI('94)58.
- AUSTRIA, Engravers' or Designers' Imprints, WEP** V('09-10)134.
- AUSTRIA, Envelope Stamps, SGMJ** I('90-1)148-170;—[Magnus, Dr.] **T-P** X('72)38-46-59.
- Chronicle, **AmJP(2)** V('92)195-523, XII('99)227, XIII('00)109-226-343;—**AS&Co-MC** XV('89)10, XVII('91)2-17, XX('94)90, XXVI('00)210, XXIX('03)46;—**LP** I('92)107-177-239;—**PJGB** I('91)39-53, X('00)104-122;—**PR(L)** IV('82-3)14, V('83-4)137, VI('84-5)31-72, VII('85-6)17, XII('90)15, XIII('91)12, XIV('92)19, XV('93)22, XVI('94)185.
- AUSTRIA, Epn. D. C., PJGB** XII('02)67.
- AUSTRIA, Errors, AmJP(2)** IV('91)124, V('92)144-296-430-475-523-581, VI('93)26-242, VII('94)300-566, VIII('95)23, IX('96)320, X('97)272, XIV('01)17, XV('02)48, XVI('03)120-228, XIX('06)137;—**AmP** II('87-8)197;—**AS&S-MC** XXXII('06)26;—**GSW** VIII('08)14;—**P(B)** X('76)159;—**PAdv&SMJ** I('08)230;—**PCal** II('94-5)23;—**PJGB** I('91)198;—**PR(L)** XII('90)152, XIII('91)15-22-169, XIV('92)207, XV('93)22-32, XVI('94)25-163-209, XIX('97)232, XXX('08)172;—**PS(L)** II('08)170, III('08-9)81;—**SCM** XII('74)160;—**SGMJ** I('90-1)170, II('91-2)46-208, III('92-3)3-19-63-84-210;—**WEP** II('05-6)188.
- Post Card, **MB-PCSA** I('94-5)33;—**PR(L)** XIV('92)10, XVI('94)251;—**RedSW** III(Aug. 15, '08)8.
- Watermark, **PR(L)** II('80-1)76.
- AUSTRIA, Essays, P(B)** VIII('74)91;—**SCM** IV('66)10, XII('74)65-86;—**SGMJ** I('90-1)46.
- AUSTRIA, First Issue, PJGB** X('00)43;—[Crinkle, O.] **SLW** I(Mar. 11, '05)4.
- AUSTRIA, Forgeries, AmJP(2)** II('89)429, VI('93)26;—**AmSMer** I('67-8)30-46;—**BFP(2)** I(Mar. '97)5;—**EmpSP** II('86)26;—**P(B)** I('67)26, II('68)21, VI('72)145;—**SCF** II('95-6)200-214;—**SCM** II('64)67-79-90-174;—**SCR** II('63-4)66;—**SGMJ** III('92-3)122, VII('96-7)125, IX('98-9)154;—**T-P** XIV('76)31.
- AUSTRIA, Forgeries & Reprints, [Earee, R. B.] GSW** IV('06)103-118-134-151-164.
- AUSTRIA, Geographical & Historical, AmSMer** II('68-9)95-105, III('69-70)1-13.
- AUSTRIA, H. of P. S., [Omega] AmJP(1)** VIII('74)103-118-133.
- AUSTRIA, History, [Oliver, A. L.] TrnCP** I('93-4)83;—**SLW** III(Dec. 23, '05)2.
- AUSTRIA, Locals, Charles Louis Railway, Galicia, P(B)** I('67)73;—**SCM** IX('71)7;—**T-P** V('67)20.
- Leitmeritz Express Co., **P(B)** I('67)198;—**SCM** VII('69)184, IX('71)7;—**T-P** V('67)75-82, VII('69)83.
- Vienna, **AS&Co-MC** I(June, '75)4.
- AUSTRIA, Minor Varieties, AmJP(2)** XIII('00)223, XIV('01)282;—**EwnWSN** X('03)477;—[Troup] **MWSN** XI('98)80, **PSupB** (Nov. '97)34, (Feb. '98)64;—**PJAm** V('89)136;—**PJl** IV('00)239;—[Capen & Gremmel] **PtOf** IV('94-5)42, **PJGB** IV(**PRR**) III('94)74;—**PR(L)** XV('93)84, XVI('94)25;—**SCM** XII('74)29-95-111-112-160;—**SGMJ** XVI('05-6)160;—**SWor(C)** I(Apr. '81)1.
- AUSTRIA, Monetary System, AmP** VI('92)101, VII('93)101;—**PR(L)** XIV('92)156.
- AUSTRIA, N. on S. & T. V., [Toppan] AmJP(2)** XVI('03)368.
- AUSTRIA, Newspaper Stamps, EmpSP** I('85)3;—**GSW** IV('06)331, XII('10)17;—**P(B)** II('68)65;—**PJGB** X('00)51, XII('02)137, XIV('04)108, XV('05)45-59-80-115;

—PJI XII('08)196;—PR(L) XXX('08)84;—[B., A. C.] SCF XIV('08-9)34;—SGMJ II('91-2)322;—T-P IV('66)43.

Chronicle, AmJP(2) III('90)193, XIII('00)78, XVII('04)269;—AS&Co-MC V('79)34, VII('81)3, X('84)27, XV('89)74, XVI('90)42, XXVI('00)178, XXVIII('02)43, XXXI('05)19, XXXIV('08)18;—PR(L) II('80-1)161, IV('82-3)155, XI('89)180, XII('90)15-103, XIII('91)16-148, XIV('92)19, XXII('00)72.

1851-6, First Issue "Mercuries," [Neulinger] AmJP(2) III('90)16, [Bouvez, J.] XIV('01)33, PR(L) XXIII('01)135, MWSN XV('01)283, AS&S-MC (Apr. '01)41, PJI V('01)88;—LP IV('95)325, V('96)13, MWSN VII('96)56;—[Friedl] MWSN VII('96)18-42;—P(B) IV('70)97;—[Fraenkel, H.] PJGB VI(PRR) V('96)31-39;—PMY&W XXIV('98)94;—SCM IV('66)60-79-151-176-191, V('67)15, VII('69)167;—SGMJ VI('95-6)142-180-191, [Mahe, P.] XVI('05-6)162.

1867 Issue, [Castle, M. P.] LP VII('98)13, PR(L) XX('98)76, MWSN XI('98)113, PJGB VIII('98)41;—SCM VIII('70)108;—T-P XXVIII('90)92, Amp VI('92)60.

AUSTRIA, Newspaper Tax Stamps, [Imperial Journal Stamps], AmJP(2) IV('91)422;—EmpExG I('84-5)23;—P(B) II('68)65, [Parisian Collector] III('69)37, SCM VII('69)69-94-96, [Vipond, W.] XII('74)31;—[Wetherell, E. W.] PJI III('99)369, MlyPJ I('00)14;—[Heygate, F. L.] Stps(R) II('98)22;—T-P II('64)46.

1891 Issue, SGMJ II('91-2) 69-141.

AUSTRIA, Numbers Issued, EwnWSN ('06) 1061;—PR(L) XXVIII('06)137.

AUSTRIA, P. Cat., [Evans] PJAm V('89)33, VI('90)153, VII('91)95.

AUSTRIA, P. S. of W., CA(R) IV(June '05)1, (July)1.

AUSTRIA, Paper, AmJP(2) X('97)171, XVII('04)111;—AmSMer II('68-9)79.

AUSTRIA, Perforations of, AmPJ(2) III('90)354-396, V('92)28-430, VIII('95)309, X('97)130;—MekSC XIX('05)151;—PJGB XIII('03)103;—PR(L) XIII('91)121, XIV('92)19-29, XXIII('01)43-164-183;—SJ(F) III('10)28.

AUSTRIA, Portraits on Stamps, [Hall] GSW I('05)155, [Goodwin, E. L.] X('09)396;—PExp I(Jan. '90)2.

AUSTRIA, Postage Due Stamps, (Gen.), AmJP(2) VI('93)539, VII('94)97, VIII('95)365, XIII('00)78-109-140, XV('02)21;—AS&Co-MC XX('94)2-26-114, XXI('95)50, XXVI('00)178-194-202-218-226, XXXIII('07)10, XXXIV('08)26;—GSW VIII('08)32½;—PJGB X('00)51-66-161, XIII('03)49;—PR(L) XV('93)276, XVI('94)35-58-251, XVII('95)27-84-108, XXII('00)153, XXX('08)84-96.

AUSTRIA, Postal Museum, VinPM IV('90-1)2.

AUSTRIA, Postal System, [Verbeck] STb(H) I('99)88.

AUSTRIA, Post Cards, (Gen.), BulNPS I('78-9)30;—MB-PCSA V('98-9)17-19;—P(B) III('69)91, V('71)99, VI('72)18, VII('73)19-103-152, VIII('74)134, IX('75)52-126, X('76)89-159;—Plyt I('82)12;—PtgSR(M) I(Aug. '77)2;—[R., A. de] PTm(M) I('81-3)20;—SCM VII('69)140, X('72)9-20-44, XI('73)60-140-144, XII('74)29;—SGMJ I('90-1)13-50-72-95-120-170-233, II('91-2)259, III('92-3)3.

Chronicle, AmJP(2) I('88)218-241, III('90)34-232-271-440, IV('91)78, V('92)144-195-296-523, VI('93)242, VII('94)300-566, X('97)465, XI('98)213-298-338, XII('99)227, XIII('00)78-140-226-441;—AS&Co-MC I(Sep. '75)4, II(Apr. '76)2, (July)2, (Oct)4, VI('80)67, VII('81)35, IX('83)81, XII('86)41, XVI('90)42-58-74-82, XVII('91)17, XVIII('92)58, XX('94)98-114, XXIII('97)102, XXIV('98)70, XXVI('00)186-194-202-210-260, XXVII('01)82, XXVIII('02)10, XXX('04)18-94, XXXI('05)2, XXXII('06)67, XXXIII('07)2-59, XXXIV('08)2-51-75;—LP I('92)43-109-228, III('94)300, VI('97)297, IX('00)54-121-304, X('01)104, XVI('07)237-299, XVII('08)21-180;—PJGB I('91)39-53-70, VIII('98)154-231, IX('99)12-91-236, X('00)51-104-122-139-180-201, XI('01)11-84-102;—PR(L) II('80-1)100, III('81-2)80, IV('82-3)5-14-155, V('83-4)11-66-137-192, VI('84-5)3-12-42-124-209, VII('85-6)17, VIII('86-7)79-88-108, XII('90)103-152-170-190-205, XIII('91)13-16-30-57-77-182-230-291, XIV('92)19-163, XV('93)22, XVI('94)208, XVII('95)27, XX('98)192.

- Bohemia, **SCM** X('72)20.  
 Fieldpost, **PR(L)** IV('82-3)5, V('83-4)11.  
 Hernan Jubilee, See "Post Cards, Exhibition."  
 List of, [Watson, G. H.] **PtCd(R)** I(Jan. '89)4, (Feb)3, (Mar)2-3, (Apr)3, (May)3;—**PMY** I('77)14-22.  
 R. L. of P. C., [Coster] **AmJP**(1) XI('77)83-137;—[Mackenzie] **PRev(M)** I('80)44.  
**AUSTRIA**, Postmarks, [Atlee] **P(B)** VI('72)44;—[Wetherell, E. W.] **PJl** III('99)411;—**SCF** XV('09-10)26.  
 Jubilee, **SCF** XV('09-10)26.  
**AUSTRIA**, Post Office, **PA&CRef** I('88)79.  
**AUSTRIA**, Prices, **GSW** I('05)387;—**PS(L)** III('08-9)289.  
 Auction, [Beardsley] **AmP** V('90-1)122;—**PJGB** I('91)12, II('92)29.  
**AUSTRIA**, R. L. of P. S., [Scott] **AmJP**(1) XI('77)90.  
**AUSTRIA**, R. L. of T. & D. V., [Kilbon] **BSB** II('96-7)35.  
**AUSTRIA**, Rare Stamps, **PS(L)** III('08-9)73.  
**AUSTRIA**, Re-engraved, **PR(L)** II('80-1)61.  
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| 1893 | Columbian, \$2.00, brown red..... | 1.50   |
| 1893 | Columbian, \$3.00, green.....     | 2.75   |
| 1893 | Columbian, \$4.00, lake.....      | 3.50   |
| 1893 | Columbian, \$5.00, black.....     | 4.75   |
| 1895 | \$5.00, green.....                | 2.25   |
| 1898 | \$1.00, Omaha, black.....         | 1.35   |
| 1902 | \$2.00, blue.....                 | 1.65   |
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# What Others Say About THE MUTUAL STAMP EXCHANGE

## COMMUNICATION.

(We do not hold ourselves responsible for the views expressed by our readers. Our columns are always open for communications of general interest. — Ed. Mekeels Weekly.)

Newton, May 25, 1912.

To the Editor—

Some of your readers may be interested in reading my personal experience with the Mutual Stamp Exchange, conducted by Mr. I. C. Greene, of Leominster, Mass., and in which only members of the "A. P. S." can participate.

I have so far entered 191 books in this Exchange. The value of the first 100 books entered was \$771.44. My credit for stamps taken from above was \$529.11. Up to date I have taken stamps to a value of \$635.88 from the Exchange, have a credit of nearly \$60 and over 40 books still in the Exchange.

To my mind this Exchange is equitably and most successfully run. I consider it one of the principal benefits to be derived from membership in our National Society, and I think A. P. S. members who do not patronize it are missing an opportunity to dispose of their duplicates very advantageously.

A. W. Dunning.

## 73%

One A. P. S. member that sent in \$750 catalogue value to the MUTUAL STAMP EXCHANGE sold 73%. He writes me, "You ought to blow about that 73%."

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| DATE OF SALE   | AMOUNT<br>REALIZED | PERCENTAGE<br>OF CAT. VALUE |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| September 22nd | \$3073             | 37%                         |
| October 28th   | 3639               | 56%                         |
| December 15th  | 2537               | 39%                         |
| December 29th  | 1744               | 48%                         |
| January 29th   | 3372               | 32%                         |
| March 7th      | 6208               | 56%                         |

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